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TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1846,

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WHIG STATE CONVENTION

Wednesday, March 11, 1846.
12 o'clock, M.

The Whig State Convention to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner met in the Court House in Harrisburg, on Wednesday the 11th of March, 1846. At 12 o'clock, M.

J. R. Edie, of Somerset rose and nominated H. Jones Brooks of Delaware as President for the temporary organization of the convention; and Thos. E. Franklin of Lancaster, at the same time nominated GEORGE N. ECKERT of Schuylkill as President.

A difficulty being likely to arise out of this double nomination, it was suggested that both the nominees withdraw; and Jas. T. Hale of Centre nominated Geo. DARSIE of Allegheny as President, which was agreed to, and Mr. Darsie took the chair by unanimous consent.

John M. Sullivan of Butler; and Thos. E. Franklin of Lancaster were then appointed Secretaries.

The list of Delegates was called over and corrected, the following Delegates being present.

SENATORIAL DELEGATES.

1. Philadelphia City—Robert T. Conrad, Jos. R. Chandler.
2. Philadelphia County—Benjamin R. Mears, J. D. Ninestiel, Geo. H. Roberts.
3. Montgomery—Benjamin Frick.
4. Chester and Delaware—H. Jones Brooke.
5. Berks—Joseph H. Spayd.
6. Lancaster and Lebanon—Thos. E. Franklin, Thos. M. Bibbhouse.
7. Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe and Pike—David J. Unger.
8. Northampton and Lehigh—Jos. Sager.
9. Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming—Henry Drinker.
10. Lycoming, Clinton and Centre—Joseph F. Quay.
11. Luzerne and Columbia—L. Butler.
12. Northumberland and Dauphin—Jas. Fox.
13. Mifflin, Juniata and Union—Jas. Potter.
14. Cumberland and Perry—Thos. D. Urie.
15. York—Thos. E. Cochran.
16. Franklin and Adams—John Stewart.
17. Huntingdon and Bedford—Henry A. Spang.
18. Clearfield, Indiana, Cambria and Armstrong—M. Dan Magehan.
19. Westmoreland and Somerset—J. R. Edie.
20. Fayette and Greene—A. J. Jones.
21. Allegheny and Butler—Geo. Darsie, Wm. B. McClure.
22. Beaver and Mercer—Robert Darragh.
23. Crawford and Venango—
24. Erie—James D. Dunlap.
25. Warren, Jefferson, Clarion, Potter and McKean—John C. Kunkel.

REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATES.

- Adams—Daniel M. Smyser.
Allegheny—H. M. Brackenridge, Thos. J. Bigham, Alex. Hilands, Daniel McCurdy.
Armstrong—Thos. D. Cochran.
Bedford—Samuel L. Russell.
Beaver—John Dicky, Thos. Nicholson.
Berks—William Shearer, Jacob Knabb, Isaac Eckhart, J. B. Bell.
Blair—Robert Lowry.
Butler—John M. Sullivan.
Bucks—Matthias Shaw, Benjamin Thompson, Abraham Reiff.
Centre and Clearfield—Andrew G. Curtin, Jas. T. Hale.
Chester—Philip D. Thomas, George Laidley, Ferdinand E. Hayes.
Columbia—A. W. Frick.
Cumberland—Thomas Craighead, jr.
E. Beatty.
Cambria—John Fenlon.
Delaware—Anthony Baker.
Dauphin—John J. Clyde, Thomas Duncan.
Erie—Lyman Robinson, John B. Johnson.
Franklin—J. E. Brady, Samuel Seibert.
Huntingdon—Thos. H. Cremer.
Indiana—John McFarland.
Lebanon—Samuel Becker.
Lehigh and Carbon—Reuben Strouss.
Luzerne—Nathan Beech.
Lancaster—Lewis Urban, Abraham Kaufman, Jacob Frantz, Samuel Duffield, Maris Hoopes.
Lycoming, Clinton and Potter—C. Donaldson, L. A. Mackey.
Mifflin—Wm. H. Irwin.
Mercer—Thomas Pumroy.
Northumberland—Wm. C. Lawson.
Perry—Charles W. Fisher.
Philadelphia City—Morton McMichael, Josiah Randall, John Swift, Edward C. Markley, John McCanness.
Philadelphia County—Thos. W. Duffield, Jr., Alex. Quinton, Penrose Ash, Benj. Robert Lindsay, Geo. R. Smith, Andrew Young.

Schuylkill—Geo. N. Eckert, Wm. T. Sanders.

Somerset—W. W. Hamersly.
Susquehanna and Wyoming—B. S. Bently, Wm. Jackson.
Westmoreland—C. P. Markle, John Covode, E. Cowan.

Warren and McKean—Benj. Bartholomew.

Union and Juniata—Jacob Wagenseller, John McCrum.

York—Robert Nebinger, Levi Welty, Richard Hams.

The list having been gone through with, Mr. Cowan moved that one delegate from each Senatorial district be nominated as a committee to report officers for the permanent organization of the Convention.

The Chair appointed the following committee.

1st District, Josiah Randall.

2d " Morton McMichael.

3d " Thomas W. Duffield.

4th " Benj. R. Mears.

5th " John D. Hardy.

6th " Benj. Frick.

7th " H. Jones Brooke.

8th " J. B. Bell.

9th " Geo. W. South.

10th " Thomas E. Franklin.

11th " T. M. Bibbhouse.

12th " D. J. Unger.

13th " Joseph Sager.

14th " Andrew J. Gartin, jr.

15th " Henry Drinker.

16th " L. Butler.

17th " James Fox.

18th " James Potter.

19th " W. B. Mullin.

20th " T. E. Cochran.

21st " John Stewart.

22nd " A. Spang.

23rd " M. D. Magehan.

24th " Edgar Cowan.

25th " A. J. Jones.

26th " T. J. Bigham.

27th " H. M. Brackenridge.

28th " Robert Darragh.

29th " James D. Dunlap.

30th " J. C. Kunkel.

On motion,
The Convention adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

3 o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. Cowan, from the committee on the subject reported the following officers for the permanent organization of the Convention:

President:

Hon. GEORGE DARSIE, of Allegheny.

Vice Presidents:

John Swift, of Philadelphia City.

Thos. Nicholson, of Beaver.

H. Jones Brooke, of Delaware.

Jas. T. Hale, of Centre.

Dr. Robert Nebinger, of Berks.

John L. Butler, of Luzerne.

Thos. Craighead, jr., of Berks.

Dr. Samuel Duffield, of Lancaster.

Matthias Shaw, of Bucks.

Samuel Seibert, of Franklin.

John Covode, of Westmoreland.

Benj. Bartholomew, of Warren.

Dr. Geo. N. Eckert, of Schuylkill.

Secretaries:

John M. Sullivan, of Butler.

C. P. Markle, of Westmoreland.

Thos. W. Duffield, jr., of Philadelphia.

Willard Jackson, of Wyoming.

Mr. Darsie thanked the Convention for the honor conferred upon him in selecting him as the President, in a neat and forcible speech which was greeted with rounds of applause.

The Officers having taken their seats, and the Convention being thus permanently organized.

Mr. Magehan moved to proceed to the nomination of candidates for Canal Commissioner; which was agreed to, and the following nominations were made:

Mr. Magehan nominated SAMUEL D. KARNES.

Dunlap " JAS. M. POWER.

Drinker " CHESTER BUTLER.

Kausman " JOS. KONIGSMACHER.

Jones " GEO. CRAFT.

Mackey " WM. TWEED.

Sanders " ED. E. BIDDLE.

Nicholson " JON. KNIGHT.

Potter " NER MIDDLESWORTH.

Fenlon " JOHN LINTON.

Lawson " JOS. F. QUAY.

Lowry " JOS. PATTON.

The nomination of Mr. Quay was withdrawn at his request.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for a Candidate, with the following result.

FIRST BALLOT.

SAMUEL D. KARNES had 33 votes.

JAMES M. POWER " 31 "

JOSEPH KONIGSMACHER " 16 "

WILLIAM TWEED " 4 "

NER MIDDLESWORTH " 3 "

CHESTER BUTLER " 6 "

JONATHAN KNIGHT " 2 "

JOSEPH W. PATTON " 2 "

E. M. BIDDLE " 2 "

GEORGE CRAFT " 1 "

JOHN LINTON " 1 "

SECOND BALLOT.

SAMUEL D. KARNES had 45 votes.

JAMES M. POWER " 49 "

JOSEPH KONIGSMACHER " 6 "

Again no election; when Mr. Konigsmacher was withdrawn, and the Convention passed to a

THIRD BALLOT.

SAMUEL D. KARNES had 44 votes.

JAMES M. POWER " 58 "

James M. Power having a majority of all the votes polled, was declared duly nominated as the Whig Candidate for Canal Commissioner.

Mr. Kunkel submitted a resolution approving the nomination, and pledging it the support of the Convention; which was adopted.

Mr. Edie offered a resolution for the appointment of a state Committee by the President, to consist of fifteen members: which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Brady, a committee of nine was appointed to report resolutions for the consideration of the Convention, as follows:

Messrs.—J. E. Brady, D. M. Smyser, Jos. R. Chandler, Jno. C. Kunkel, Benj. Thomson, Maris Hoopes, John Covode, Banj. Bartholomew and H. M. Brackenridge.

On motion of Mr. Mackey, the following committee were appointed to inform Mr. Power of his nomination, to wit:—

L. A. Mackey, Jas. D. Dunlap, Ed. C. Markley, Alexander Hilands, and John M'Arum.

On motion Wm. T. Sanders, Jos. J. Clyde and A. J. Jones were appointed a committee of finance.

The Convention then adjourned to meet again at seven o'clock this evening.

Seven o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met agreeably to adjournment.

The Chairman announced the following.

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

John P. Sanderson of Lebanon.

Samuel D. Karnes of Dauphin.

Jos. Konigsmacher of Lancaster.

James Martin of Dauphin.

James Fox of do

Morton McMichael of Philadelphia.

George Ertz of do

Theo. D. Cochran of Lancaster.

H. Jones Brooke of Delaware.

John R. Edie of Somerset.

Wm. Butler of Mifflin.

Jno. B. Johnson of Erie.

Jno. J. Slocum of Luzerne.

Edgar Cowan of Westmoreland.

W. J. Howard of Allegheny.

Mr. Magehan rose and addressed the Convention in a few remarks, in the course of which he stated that notwithstanding the defeat of the candidate he had the honor to nominate, Samuel D. Karnes, he was authorized by that gentleman to state that his affection for Whig Principles were far superior to all personal considerations, and that he pledged himself most heartily to the ardent support of the nominee of the Whig party.

This announcement was received with unbounded applause.

On motion of Mr. Nicholson, the nomination was adopted unanimously, and by acclamation.

Mr. Brady, from the committee on resolutions, reported the following:

Whereas, It has never been the policy of the Democratic Whigs of Pennsylvania to disguise the principles they profess, or disown the measures they espouse and advocate, but rather to embrace every proper occasion to proclaim them to the world, and court the scrutiny of enlightened public opinion, persuaded that the more they are scrutinized and weighed, the stronger will be their hold upon public confidence and acceptance:

And Whereas, The Convention of the party assuming to be the exclusive Democracy of the country, which assembled in this place on the 4th inst., did, by laying on the table a resolution reported by the committee on resolutions in that body, on the subject of discriminating duties, with an amendment offered thereto, sustaining the Tariff of 1842, and refusing again to take it up for final action, decline and shrink from avowing and proclaiming their position as a party, on this question of such vital interest and momentous concern to the people of Pennsylvania, in contravention of that spirit of openness and candor professed so emphatically in the preamble and resolutions adopted, and so signally falsified by their action: And Whereas, It is the desire of this Convention that the views and position of that portion of the community which it represents on this as well as on all other subjects, should be known and proclaimed, without disguise, reservation or concealment: And Whereas, The assembling of this Convention, for the nomination of a candidate for the office of Canal Commissioner presents a convenient and suitable occasion to re-affirm them with the frankness and openness becoming freemen, proud of their principles, and not afraid to proclaim them in the face of the world; Therefore be it

Resolved, That in again unfurling the Whig banner we inscribe upon its folds, the same mottoes which emblazoned it when we marched beneath it to victory and triumph in the glorious days of 1840,

and when we rallied around it in the no less memorable struggle of 1844. Though pierced and torn in many a stubborn conflict, that "old flag" has never been lowered or surrendered, and shall wave over our heads to the latest moment of our political existence.

Resolved, That the Whigs of Pennsylvania solemnly re-iterate the expression of their unwavering devotion to the Tariff of 1842;—a Whig measure—the result of Whig policy—passed by a Whig Congress—and which has covered the country with blessings and benefits; and we most earnestly invite and adjure every true hearted Pennsylvanian, of whatever party name, to unite with us in endeavoring to rescue it from the disastrous overthrow with which it is now menaced by the National administration.

Resolved, That we denounce the anti-protection and free trade doctrines proclaimed by the President of the United States in his annual message to Congress; re-affirmed by the Secretary of the Treasury in his Treasury report; embodied in the Bill to reduce the Revenue submitted under the favoring auspices of the President, to the Committee of Ways and Means, of the House of Representatives of the United States; and endorsed as good by the deliberate sanction of the Locofoco party, through its delegates in Convention on the 4th of March instant, as false in theory, unfounded in principle, repudiated by experience, and as fatally subversive of every vital and cherished interest of Pennsylvania; which will paralyze the arm of industry, arrest enterprise midway in its career, close the shop of the artisan and mechanic, cause the products of agriculture to rot in the fields, and open a golden harvest to the shavers and speculators, and corrupt and venal tools of power, enriched by speculation and rioting in the "spoils" of office.

Resolved, That in view of the doctrines and policy of the dominant party as at present developed, as contrasted with their feigned professions in favor of protection and the Tariff of 1842, during the late Presidential contest, we ask the people of Pennsylvania whether they can still resist the conviction that they were then most grossly and wickedly deceived and deluded; and kindly, respectfully, but earnestly appeal to them to be deceived no longer, nor any further to confide in the selfish and corrupt leaders, who have lured them on to the verge of ruin.

Resolved, That the unqualified praise and unconditional approval of the course of policy pursued by the President and the Governor of this Commonwealth, expressed by the Democratic Convention in their resolutions, as published to the world, whilst the first is striving energetically to destroy the protective system, and the second cordially seconds the endeavor, replaces that party in the position it always occupied before it was found necessary to deceive Pennsylvania into the support of James K. Polk—that of the bitter, determined, and unrelenting enemies of the protection of American labor against foreign pauper competition.

Resolved, That the members of the Convention do most solemnly protest, and warn their fellow-citizens against the destructive policy of the National Administration, by which it is proposed that the immense mineral wealth, and the millions of investments in the manufactures of the country, shall be sacrificed to a modification of the Corn Laws of Great Britain, when it is known that Great Britain must have provisions from abroad, or her people must starve at home—and that the Government of that country will be compelled to take provisions from the United States, without any conditions of a reduction of the Tariff of 1842. This attempt to beguile the people with a pretended reciprocity of trade, is of the same character with the deceptive course that proclaimed the successful Presidential candidate (during the late canvass,) a "better friend of the Tariff" than his illustrious opponent. The success that was built on falsehood, is to be sustained by deception.

Resolved, That in the name of the people of Pennsylvania, burthened as they are with taxes that will scarcely admit of any further augmentation, and bowed down beneath the load of an enormous debt, contracted in the construction of works of National utility, we claim our just share of the proceeds arising from the sale of the Public Lands, held in trust for the several States by the United States; and that it is one of the doctrines of the Whig party, now re-affirmed as earnestly as it is denied by our opponents, that such distribution, on the Federal or some other fair and just ratio, should be made without delay: Therefore.

Resolved, That we accept the issue made by our opponents, of hopeless indefinite, remedyless taxation, with a still further increase of the burthen, on the one part, or distribution, with an immediate reduction and eventual removal of the burthen entirely; and espousing the last, will fearlessly and confidently await the decision of the people.

Resolved, That if we are to judge of the future from the past, the public works of Pennsylvania, if left as they have been, in the uncontrolled power and manage-

ment of the dominant party, will remain as they always have been, a source and instrument of corruption, venality, peculation and fraud, absorbing unnecessarily a large portion of their revenue, in ministering to the cupidity and enriching the pockets of those entrusted with their management, and their train of useless, and often irresponsible hangers-on and followers.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the debt contracted in the construction of our Public improvements rest alike upon our citizens, and that all are equally taxed to defray the interest and charges of management, it is eminently just that the Whig party should have a voice in regulating and controlling the expenditures upon them.

Resolved, That the retrenchment of the expensers of the National and State Governments, by cutting off all unnecessary expenditures, and introducing a rigid system of accountability and economy, is one of the measures to which the Whigs look for the relief of the people, and that they pledge themselves to the attainment of this object, so desirable to all, by endeavoring to secure the election or appointment of men to office, who will labor faithfully to accomplish it.

Resolved, That the principles of the Whig party adequate to all the wants and exigencies of the Government, and the rights and comforts of the people, and that they pledge themselves to the attainment of this object, so desirable to all, by endeavoring to secure the election or appointment of men to office, who will labor faithfully to accomplish it.

Resolved, That this Convention, profoundly impressed with a sense of the importance and truth of the doctrines herebefore set forth and expressed, present to the People of Pennsylvania, of all parties, who are penetrated with a like conviction, the name of JAMES M. POWER, as a candidate to fill the office of Canal Commissioner, at the ensuing General Election, as a gentleman every way qualified to carry them out in successful action, well deserving all their confidence, and eminently fitted to fill the station usefully and honorably, and who, if elected, will do all in his power to redeem the pledges and fulfil the promise made in his behalf.

The resolutions having been read a motion was made to proceed to their second reading; when they were postponed for the present.

Mr. Smyser then submitted to the Convention the following letter which was read and was greeted with rounds of applause.

HARRISBURG, March 11, 1846.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC WHIG CONVENTION NOW IN SESSION.

Sir: I desire through you to return my most grateful thanks to the members of the Convention who supported me as a candidate for the office of Canal Commissioner. Although not favored by a majority of the votes of the body over which you preside, I beg leave to say that my zeal in the cause is not impaired, nor my desire for the success of the nominee, the less. In voting for Whig candidates, we substantially vote for Whig principles; the two are inseparable, and as I am determined to support Mr. Power with all honorable energy, I have only to entreat of my friends to "go and do likewise."

I am respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. D. KARNES.

Mr. Kaufman also presented the following letter; which was read, and was cheered with no less enthusiasm.

HUGHES' HOTEL, March 11, 1846.

Geo. DARSIE, Esq.

Dear Sir: Understanding that misrepresentations prevail that some of the candidates before the Convention are dissatisfied with the choice, the undersigned takes the occasion to say that the nominee of the Convention, James M. Power, meets with his warm and cordial approval, and that he pledges himself and his friends of the "Old Guard," to use their utmost endeavors to procure the triumphant election of that nominee.

Yours respectfully,

JOS. KONIGSMACHER.

On motion, the consideration of the resolutions was resumed on second reading, and being again before the Convention, able and animated speeches were made by Messrs. Randall of Philadelphia, Smyser of Adams, Brady of Franklin, Gowan of Westmoreland, Johnson of Erie, Conrad McMichael, and Chandler of Philadelphia; when the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

On motion,

The thanks of the Convention were voted to the Commissioners of Dauphin county for the use of the Court House; and to officers for the faithful discharge of their duties.

It was then resolved that the proceedings of the Convention be published in all the Whig papers of the Commonwealth; when

On motion

Three hearty cheers were given for Power, and three for Karnes; when

The Convention adjourned sine die.

THE RAILROAD BILL.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY TO CONSTRUCT A RAILROAD THROUGH PENNSYLVANIA IN A DIRECTION FROM BALTIMORE TO THE OHIO RIVER AT THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the assent of this commonwealth be and the same is hereby given and granted to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company incorporated by an act of the legislature of the state of Maryland passed on the twenty-eighth day of February Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company" to locate and construct and maintain a continuation of the railroad of the said company from the town of Cumberland in the state of Maryland to the city of Pittsburgh, under and subject to the provisions, conditions and restrictions hereinafter enacted; Provided, That within six months after the completion of said railroad to Pittsburgh, and semi-annually thereafter, the proper officers or agents of the said Baltimore and Ohio Railroad company shall make out, under oath affirmation, and transmit to the treasurer of this state a statement exhibiting the amount of tonnage of whatsoever kind or description and the number of passengers that may have passed over the entire length of said road between Pittsburgh and Cumberland during the preceding six months, and that they shall also at the same time pay into the treasury of this commonwealth a tax or duty on all tonnage of whatsoever kind or description, except the ordinary baggage of passengers that may have passed over the entire length of said road between Cumberland and Pittsburgh during the last preceding six months, at such rate as the legislature may hereafter direct, not exceeding twenty-five cents on every ton thereof, and also pay into the treasury aforesaid at the same time a tax or duty on all passengers that may have passed over the entire distance of said road between the aforesaid points during the last preceding six months at such rates as the legislature may hereafter direct, not exceeding fifty cents for each passenger, until a railroad shall be constructed connecting the Columbia with the said Baltimore and Ohio railroad by means of the Cumberland Valley or any other railroad, and when such connecting road shall be constructed, the said tax or duty on passengers shall not exceed twenty-five cents for each passenger, and the legislature hereby reserves the right to adopt such additional measures to secure a faithful compliance with the conditions of this proviso as may hereafter be deemed necessary. Provided also, That if it shall be deemed necessary, the governor of this commonwealth may appoint a state agent or agents, not exceeding one for each train of cars, who shall have the right to travel at all times over said road between Cumberland and Pittsburgh in the cars or other vehicles of said company as shall or may be used for the transportation of passengers, free of any charge, who shall have free access at all times to examine and inspect the books, accounts, waybills, of freight; permits, manifests, and all such other books and papers of said company as may be necessary and proper to enable the said agent or agents to ascertain and keep a true and just account of all the goods, wares, merchandise and tonnage of every kind and description that shall or may be carried or transported on or over said road between Cumberland and Pittsburgh, and the number of passengers travelled on the same, and provided also That if a greater number of agents on said road shall be required by any act of the legislature of Pennsylvania, the governor may appoint an additional number who shall have a right to pass free of charge as aforesaid.

Section 2. That the said railroad shall be located north and east of the Manongahela river by such route as the said company may deem expedient, and the said company may proceed to construct the said road upon the like principles and plans and under and subject to same regulations, powers, immunities, privileges, conditions and restrictions